

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 796

By Pody

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Margie Gifford-Hawkins on her receipt of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Gifford-Hawkins is one such estimable educator, who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Gifford-Hawkins received the 2012 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, an honor most befitting her outstanding tenure as a teacher, as it recognizes the positive influence she has had on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Gifford-Hawkins received her Bachelor of Arts in Education and Master of Arts in Instructionary Leadership from Tennessee Technological University; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Gifford-Hawkins has served with acumen and alacrity as a 6th grade Science teacher for three exemplary years at Winfree Bryant Middle School, where she is also the chair of the Science department; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Gifford-Hawkins is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who works assiduously to motivate her students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, during the course of her career, Margie Gifford-Hawkins initiated a number of programs to expand the education of her students outside the classroom, including an after school Girls Science Club, a student-run TV station, Family Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Nights, and Community Earth Day; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Gifford-Hawkins truly serves as an inspiration to her colleagues and students alike, and her friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know her; and

WHEREAS, Margie Gifford-Hawkins epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Margie Gifford-Hawkins on her receipt of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, commend her exceptional service to the children of Tennessee, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.